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Letter: Your article, "No Valentine for area motorists," above the fold on the front page of Friday's newspaper, did not specifically focus on the beautiful photograph by Staff Photographer BILL WECHTER. The subtitle, "Rain, snow snarl North County traffic as storm passes" was more to the point of the article's text. Regrettably it was not mentioned that the "snow-capped mountains" pictured at the "Golden hour" were an excellent and unusual example of our local mountains shown in ALPENGLOW – an optical phenomenon that can be observed when the sun sets. It appears as a red glowing band that can sometimes be seen to the east. In mountainous areas such as ours it is caused by snow, moisture, or ice on the mountain sides which receive scattered light from the setting sun. Cecil Munsey
Poway

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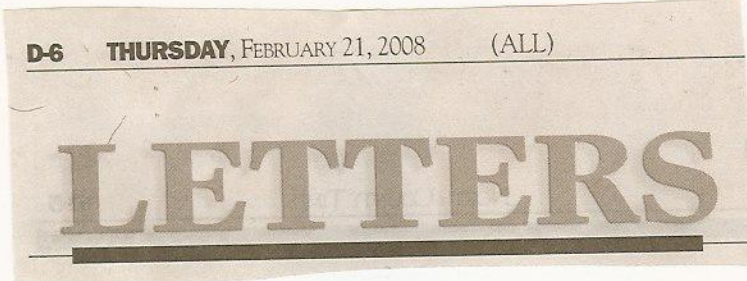


Photo captured optical phenomenon

Your article, "No Valentine for area motorists," above the fold on the front page of Friday's newspaper, did not specifically focus on the beautiful photograph by Staff Photographer Bill Wechter. The subtitle, "Rain, snow snarl North County traffic as storm passes" was more to the point of the article's text. Regrettably it was not mentioned that the "snow-capped mountains" pictured at the "golden hour" were an excellent and unusual example of our local mountains shown in alpenglow — an optical phenomenon that can be observed when the sun sets. It appears as a red glowing band that can sometimes be seen to the east. In mountainous areas such as ours, it is caused by snow, moisture, or ice on the mountain sides, which receive scattered light from the setting sun.

CECIL MUNSEY
Poway